

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1347
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2000
BARREN LAND
HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several lakh hectares of land is lying useless in the country and nothing is being done to make this land cultivable;
- (a) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) the reaction of the Government in this regard; and
- (c) the development works undertaken in this connection during the last three years, State-wise ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) The process of soil erosion and land degradation resulting into degraded lands/wastelands occur due to faulty cultivation practices, deterioration due to lack of appropriate soil and water management, natural and environmental causes etc. Department of Land Resources of the Ministry of Rural Development has the mandate to develop wastelands in non-forests areas, aimed at checking land degradation, putting such lands into productive use and increasing biomass availability specially fuelwood and fodder. The Department is implementing various Schemes for development of wastelands in non-forest areas.

(b) As per the 'Wastelands Atlas of India', 2000 brought out by the Department of Land Resources (DoLR) in collaboration with National

National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad using remote sensing technologies, the total extent of Wasteland in the country is 63.85 million ha. The State-wise details are given at Annexure-I.

(c) & (d) State-wise details of the projects sanctioned under major Wasteland Development Schemes namely Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP) being implemented on watershed basis by the Department of Land Resources during the last three years is given at Annexure-II.

ANNEXURE-I

**ANNEXURE REFERED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1347 DUE FOR RE
ON 01.08.2000.**

STATEMENT SHOWING DETAILS OF STATE-WISE WASTELANDS IN THE COUNTRY

(Area in Sq. kms.)

S.No	State	No. of Distt.	Tot.Geog.Area	Tot.Wastel- Covered
		Covered	and in dist	
1	Andhra Pr.	23	275068.00	51750.19
2	Arunachal Pr.	13	83743.00	18326.25
3	Assam	23	78438.00	20019.17
4	Bihar	55	173877.00	20997.55
5	Goa	02	3702.00	613.27
6	Gujarat	25	196024.00	43021.28
7	Haryana	19	44212.00	3733.98
8	Himachal Pr.	12	55673.00	31659.00
9	Jammu and Kashmir	14	222236.00	65444.24
10	Karnataka	27	191791.00	20839.28
11	Kerala	14	38863.00	1448.18
12	Madhya Pradesh	62	443446.00	69713.75
13	Maharashtra	32	307690.00	53489.08

14 Manipur		09	22327.00	12948.62
15 Meghalaya	07		22429.00	9904.38
16 Mizoram		03	21081.00	4071.68
17 Nagaland	07		16579.00	8404.10
18 Orissa		30	155707.00	21341.71
19 Punjab		17	50362.00	2228.40
20 Rajasthan	32		342239.00	105639.11
21 Sikkim		04	7096.00	3569.58
22 Tripura		04	10486.00	1276.03
23 Tamil Nadu	29		130058.00	23013.90
24 Uttar Pradesh		83	294411.00	38772.80
25 West Bengal	18		88752.00	5718.48
26 Union Territories		20	10973.00	574.30

Total 584 3287263.00 638518.31

Annexure-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) AND (d) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1347
REPLY ON 01.08.2000.

The Statement showing details of projects sanctioned under major schemes of the Department of Land Resources during 1997-98 to 1999-2000

S.No.	States	IWDP	DPAP	DDP	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.85	7.99	0.98	10.82
2.	Arunachal Prad	0.01	-	-	0.01
3.	Assam	0.34	-	-	0.34
4.	Bihar	0.06	0.09	-	0.15
5.	Gujarat	1.38	1.75	1.75	4.88
6.	Haryana	0.12	-	0.88	1.00
7.	Himachal Pr.	0.99	0.08	0.24	1.31
8.	Jammu Kash.	0.27	-	0.66	0.93
9.	Karnataka	1.72	1.24	0.75	3.71
10.	Madhya Prade.	1.51	1.32	-	2.83
11.	Maharashtra	1.01	1.09	-	2.1
12.	Meghalaya	0.11	-	-	0.11
13.	Manipur	0.66	-	-	0.66
14.	Nagaland	0.61	-	-	0.61
15.	Orissa	1.06	-	-	1.06
16.	Rajasthan	0.89	0.09	4.91	5.89
17.	Sikkim	0.49	-	-	0.49
18.	Tamil Nadu	0.67	2.01	-	2.68
19.	Uttar Prade.	2.78	2.16	-	4.94
Total		16.53	17.82	10.17	44.52